

Your health care, your vote.

NUGSS Health & Dental Plan: Fee Increase Referendum FAQ



Vote online from
**9 am on Mar. 20 to
8 am on Mar. 24, 2025**

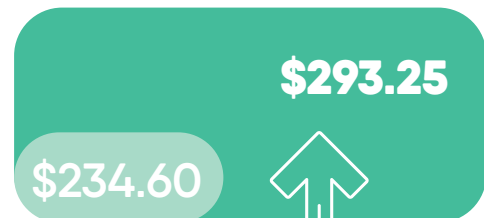
A link will be sent by the NUGSS President to your student inbox.

WHAT IS THE NUGSS HEALTH & DENTAL PLAN?

NUGSS provides an extended Health & Dental Plan for its members. The Plan offers health, dental, vision, and travel coverage. Learn more at the [Studentcare NUGSS Plan website](#).

WHAT ARE THE PROPOSED CHANGES?

1. Increase the current Plan fee by \$58.65 for the 2025-2026 period, effective September 1, 2025.
2. In every year thereafter, give the NUGSS Board of Directors the ability to adjust the Plan fees by up to 15% to account for inflation, if necessary.



WHY A FEE INCREASE?

- **High claims:** Over the past 5 years, the NUGSS plan has seen a 120% increase in claims and increasing utilization. This is evident that students benefit greatly from this service.
- **Inflation:** The cost of health and dental plan services have been rising each year due to inflationary impacts.

WILL THE PLAN FEE AUTOMATICALLY INCREASE BY 15% EVERY YEAR IF THIS PASSES?

Nope! This referendum simply gives the NUGSS Board of Directors the ability to increase the Plan fee by up to 15%, only if needed due to inflationary impacts.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME NUGSS INCREASED ITS PLAN FEES?

Over the past 10 years, NUGSS has increased its Health & Dental Plan Fees only one time. In fact, for the past 8 years, the fees has remained unchanged. After 8 years, an increase is necessary in order to re-align the fees to inflationary costs.



HOW DOES THE NUGSS PLAN FEE COMPARE TO OTHER STUDENT SOCIETIES' PLAN FEES?

NUGSS has one of the lowest fees compared to its other student associations in BC. This lower fee can be a limiting factor in providing lasting and fulfilling coverage for members. Even with the increased fee cap, it would be on average with other student unions in BC.



WHAT IF THE REFERENDUM DOES NOT PASS?

NUGSS will be forced to make severe benefit cuts to the Health & Dental Plan. This means that students would pay significantly higher out of pocket costs when accessing these services.

WHEN AND HOW DO I VOTE?



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